FACTSHEET

Victims Register

Legal information for eligible persons



Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) Victims Register (VR) shares information with eligible persons approved to register.

Once registered, you or your nominee will be contacted by the VR and provided with the offenders sentencing information. VR will share general updates by phone, email or mail throughout the prisoner's sentence.

The safety and protection of registered persons is paramount. The purpose of providing information is to empower you by providing the opportunity to make submissions to decision makers about a prisoner's suitability for parole and to notify you regarding events that may affect your safety.

As per the declaration within the VR Application Form, all information provided by the register to you or your nominee must be treated confidentially and must not be disclosed.

Information that cannot be shared

VR information **must not** be disclosed to the public by either you or your nominee. This includes, but is not limited to:

- releasing confidential information to the prisoner you're registered against and/or other persons, including the prisoner's family and friends.
- discussing or releasing confidential information to any media outlet (e.g., television, newspaper, radio, internet, book or other form of communication).
- distributing confidential information in leaflets or brochures in letterboxes or by announcing the confidential information at a meeting or on social media.

Penalty of disclosure, Corrective Services Act 2006

The information disclosed to you or your nominee is disclosed on the basis that it is not for public dissemination.

Disclosure of this information publicly may result in an eligible person's details being removed from the register and other penalties, as described in s341 of the Corrective Services Act 2006 (CSA), including up to two (2) years imprisonment.

It will be at the chief executive and their delegate's discretion to determine who remains on the register if any information is shared publicly.

Examples of confidential information

Examples of confidential information are outlined under s341(5) of the CSA and includes, but is not limited to:

- a person's private details.
- anything that might pose a risk to the safety of a corrective services facility.
- information that might endanger someone's life and health.
- anything that may disclose the identity of someone, the source of information or expert advice.
- confidential information does not include information that is already known to the public.

Exceptional circumstances

It should be noted that a prisoner may apply for exceptional circumstances parole any time during a period of custody. Parole Board Queensland (PBQ) may release a prisoner to exceptional circumstances parole if they are satisfied that exceptional circumstances exist in relation to that prisoner, regardless of their sentenced release date imposed by a court.

The CSA does not allow for an eligible person to make a submission to PBQ regarding an application for exceptional circumstances parole. However, the VR will always advise if a decision is made by PBQ to release the prisoner on an exceptional circumstances parole order.

Mail blocking

You have the right to make a request to the General Manager of the correctional centre to seek that the prisoner have no contact with you during their period of imprisonment.

After the General Manager receives your written request, the prisoner will be directed not to have any contact with you and this will remain in force throughout the prisoner's entire period in custody. Please note, the General Manager of the centre may need to inform the prisoner that they are unable to contact you.

For more information about contacting a prison, please visit: Prison locations | Your rights, crime and the law | **Queensland Government**



